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MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

In re: Rima Catherine Bardawil

C 06-38

## PUBLIC REPORT AND FINAL ORDER

COMPLAINANT Kenneth B. Schurr filed the above-referenced COMPLAINT against RESPONDENT Rima Catherine Bardawil, a candidate for Miami-Dade County Circuit Court, Group 78. The COMPLAINT alleges that, prior to the September 5, 2006, judicial election, RESPONDENT Bardawil misled voters because her campaign posters did not indicate the specific judicial office she was seeking and they did not specify whether or not she was an incumbent.

Pursuant to the Code of Miami-Dade County, Section 2-1068 and Section 2-11.1.1 (B), the Commission on Ethics has jurisdiction to enforce the Mandatory Fair Campaign Practices Ordinance at Section 2-11.1.1 (C) (1), governing most County and municipal offices. However, judicial offices are not included under Section (C) (1). Pursuant to Section 2-1068 and Section 2-11.1.1 (D) (2) of the Code, all candidates who agree to abide by the Voluntary Fair Campaign Practices Ordinance recognize the compulsory and irrevocable jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission.

Respondent Bardawil did not agree to be bound by the Voluntary Statement of Fair Campaign Practices Ordinance and, consequently, has not placed herself within the jurisdiction of the Ethics Commission. On September 27, 2006, the Ethics Commission determined that the COMPLAINT lacked legal sufficiency and dismissed it.

Therefore it is:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT the COMPLAINT is hereby dismissed.

**DONE AND ORDERED** by the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics & Public Trust in public session on September 27, 2006.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION ON ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST

By:

Kerry E. Rosenthal, Esq., Chairman